



THE RIO NEWS.

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NUMBER 14

WILSON, SONS & Co.
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Persons desiring to matriculate their children will please communicate with the Directress.

Mrs. LAVONA GLENN,
No. 118, Praia de Botafogo,
Botafogo.

Missing Friends.

Information is desired at the British Consulate in regard to the whereabouts of Alstrand Weinstein, whose address was given as at Rua Senhor dos Passos No. 55 (sobrado).

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BRITISH CONSULATE GENERAL

RIO DE JANEIRO

In view of the National Census to be taken on the 1st March, instant, it is requested that particulars of all BRITISH SUBJECTS resident in this district be registered at this Consulate General on that date or as near thereto as possible.

All persons born within the limits of the United Kingdom and resident here on the date named are particularly desired to report.

C. B. RHIND,

Acting Consul General.

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Youle & Co.

No. 38, Rua 1º de Março.

NORTH BRITISH AND MERCANTILE INSURANCE CO. Ltd.Total funds on 31st Dec. 1899 £14,409,059
Authorized Capital..... + 3,000,000
Subscribed Capital..... .. 2,750,000

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Pullen, Schmidt & Co.

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BRITISH LEGATION.—No. 1, Rua Visconde de Itaboraí (opposite Custom House). Petropolis SIR HENRY NEVILLE DERING, Minister.

AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL.—No. 99, Rua 1º de Março. EUGENE SEEGER, Consul General.

BRITISH CONSULATE GENERAL.—No. 5, Rua Visconde de Itaboraí (opposite Custom House). C. B. RHIND, Acting Consul General.

Church Directory

CHURCH OF ENGLAND.—Service is held every Sunday morning at 11 o'clock. There is a Celebration of the Holy Communion on the first and third Sundays in the month at 11 a.m. and on the second and fourth Sundays at 3 p.m., also on Saints' Days according to ancient customs. Services and marriages at times to be arranged with the Chaplain, for whom communications may be sent to Crasbly & Co., 36 Rua do Ouvidor.

JOHN D'ARCY, T. C. D.,

British Chaplain.

Hotel Metropole.

IGREJA EVANGÉLICA FLUMINENSE.—Rua Largo de S. Joaquim, No. 120—Divine service in Portuguese on Sundays. Prayer meeting at 11 a.m. Biblical class to study the Holy Gospels at 1 p.m.; afternoon, Gospel preaching at 6½ p.m. on Wednesdays. Biblical study and preaching at 7 p.m.

JOAO M. G. DOS SANTOS, Pastor.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.—Largo do Catete. English service every Sabbath at 12 noon. Sunday School at 10 a.m. Holy Communion first Sabbath of each month.—Portuguese services: 8.30, every Sabbath at 11 a.m. Biblical class to study the Holy Gospels at 1 p.m.; afternoon, Gospel preaching at 6½ p.m. on Wednesdays. Biblical study and preaching at 7 p.m. JOHN DICKIE, Pastor.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—No. 15, Travessa da Botafogo. Services in Portuguese every Sunday at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m., and at 7 p.m. Thursdays.

ALVARO E. DOS REIS, Pastor.

Residence: On the Church premises.

BAPTIST CHURCH.—No. 25, Rua de S. Anna. Services in Portuguese every Sunday at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m., and every Thursday at 7 p.m.

EDMUND A. TILLY, Pastor.

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PETROPOLIS METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.—Avenida Marechal Deodoro, No. 6. English service at 4 p.m. Sundays. Portuguese services at 11 a.m. and 7.30 p.m. Sundays; 7.30 p.m. Wednesdays. Sunday School at 10 a.m.

EDMUND A. TILLY, Pastor.

Miscellaneous.

AMERICAN BIBLIC SOCIETY'S AGENCEY.—No. 20 Rua 1º de Ajuda.—H. C. TUCKER, Agent.

BRITISH AND IRISH BIBLE SOCIETY'S AGENCEY.—Rua Sete de Setembro, No. 6.—On sale the Holy Scripture in Portuguese, English, French, German, Italian, Spanish and other languages.

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RIO BRAZILIANS' MISSION.—Rest and Reading Room.—Av. das Gonçalves Dias. Open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; W. J. LINNEY, Missioner. Gifts of books, magazines, papers, etc., also of leftover clothing, will be gratefully received at the Mission, or at No. 27, Candelaria.

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.—No. 59, Rua da Quitanda, 2nd floor. Rooms open from 8 a.m. to 10 o'clock p.m. Secretary's office hours from noon to 1 o'clock p.m. R. A. W. SLOAN President; MYRON A. CLARK, General Secretary; DONULINGOS de Oliveira, Hon. Treasurer.

RIVER PLATE ITEMS.

—The Methodist Episcopal conference at Montevideo was opened on the 14th ult., under the presidency of Bishop McCabe.

—There were 18 patients in the British Hospital at Montevideo at the end of January, and 23 were admitted during February. During the latter month there were 2 deaths and 20 discharges, leaving 19 under treatment at the beginning of March.

—The Montevideo sanitary authorities have made themselves ridiculous once more by ordering that barbers shall use antiseptics. Before shaving a man all the implements used must be treated with antiseptics, which would not only take a long time, but would add largely to the cost. Both barber and customer would certainly object.

—The following case is a specimen of the extortions and lack of reasonableness of the municipalities. A company rents premises for which it pays a certain rental. It submits a municipal license based on the rent. It submits a part of its premises, and the concern to which it submits is called upon to pay the municipality a tax, also based on its rent, so that if it is paid, the tax on the rental of the premises is paid twice on such part of it as is submitted. It does not require any genius to discover that this double tax based on rental is illegal, as well as entirely unfair.—*Buenos Aires Herald*.

—The statistical department of the Montevideo custom-house has published the following returns of the foreign commerce of Uruguay since 1889:

Year.	Import.	Export.	Total.
1889.	\$36,223,863	\$25,494,107	\$62,777,970
1890.	32,361,627	29,085,519	61,450,146
1891.	18,978,420	26,998,275	45,976,690
1892.	18,404,296	25,851,819	44,356,115
1893.	19,671,610	27,681,373	47,353,011
1894.	23,800,370	33,479,511	57,279,881
1895.	25,356,106	32,543,611	57,929,750
1896.	25,530,185	30,403,084	55,933,269
1897.	19,512,216	29,319,573	48,831,789
1898.	24,784,360	30,276,916	55,061,276
1899.	25,551,788	36,574,164	62,125,952
1900.	23,977,606	29,388,187	53,365,793

—Bubonic plague having disappeared from Rio Janeiro and Santos, quarantine against those ports on that account is to be lifted. It must not be supposed, however, that this means opening the port, for it is announced that the sanitary authorities intend to impose 48 hours' quarantine on vessels from Rio de Janeiro on account of yellow fever, so that we shall be worse off than before. This is another proof of what we have often said, namely that the sole object of the quarantine authorities is to maintain quarantine at any cost and on any pretext. When one excuse no longer serves, they immediately find another, but the last thing they think of is to let loose the free. And the people still tolerate this ridiculous system with patience.—*Montevideo Times*, March 13.—One day there came to Montevideo a skillful dentist from the United States. His work was highly satisfactory to his patrons, and he determined to establish himself permanently in that city. In order to practice there it became necessary that he pass an examination. This did not trouble him, for he did not understand the character of those who would examine him. But he found out that the object was not to prevent unfit men from practising, but to keep out those from abroad, and as his knowledge of Spanish was limited it was not difficult to find him deficient in puzzling points. It did not matter that he was far above the average practitioner; he was fixed to fail, and after a while, seeing the ways that are vain, he in disgust resolved to abandon his plan and return to the United States where there is some chance to get on without being followed by official leeches and disgraceful obstructions.—*B. A. Herald*.—The monstrous action of the health authorities here in increasing the quarantine against Rio Janeiro, on protest of yellow fever, just when it was taken off on account of bubonic plague, is not likely to pass without protest. According to the *Siglo*, the Brazilian government intends to express its disgust diplomatically, and will also instruct its diplomatic representatives here and in Argentina to open negotiations for the celebration of a new sanitary convention, by which the more rational process of disinfection shall be substituted for the present absurd and mischievous quarantine system. In this we wish them every success, though they may expect to meet with every resistance from the benighted and obstinate sanitary authorities here. Meanwhile, we learn that the Brazilian delegates to the scientific congress who arrived on Friday, were so disgusted when they learned that they would have to undergo quarantine at Flores Island, contrary to what they were informed on leaving Rio Janeiro, that they spoke their mind in pretty plain terms, and refused to land, going on to Buenos Aires only to come here on the opening day. In our opinion they did very right. These quarantines cannot be protested against too often or too vigorously, and if they were possible entirely to boycott the port until they were abolished, it would be a wholesome lesson. We hope the matter will be touched upon when the congress meets.—*Montevideo Times*, March 19.

—At present, says the *Montevideo Siglo*, the Uruguayan republic has some \$125,000,000 of consolidated debts, without counting the municipal loan, the deferred debts, the steadily accumulating Brazilian debt, and various floating credits. Summing all together, the debt of the nation is about 150 million dollars, which, in relation to a sparse population of 930,000 souls, represents the heavy charge of \$162 per head. All this debt, with trifling exceptions, has its origin in civil war, in extravagance for the avoidance of civil war, and in governments which have arisen from or have been confirmed in power by civil war. Without going further back into history, the last civil war (*1897*) which lasted barely seven months, was the sole and direct cause of emissions of debt amounting to over \$10,000,000, to which another million will shortly be added, besides the increase or creation of taxes necessary to meet the public requirements. Of debt alone, this means two millions for each month of the war. In addition to this, there were the private losses arising from injury to stock and property, abandonment of interests, paralysis of commerce and industry, more or less permanent depreciation of public values, emigration of men and capital, and so forth. These injuries cannot be calculated, but they must notably exceed the amount of debt issued by the government to meet the expenses of the war. Even supposing they were only equal, the loss to the country would be twenty eight million dollars, or four millions for each month of the war.

STRANGERS' HOSPITAL.

Rio de Janeiro, March, 1901.

AN APPEAL.

With the view of gaining a deeper general interest in the Hospital, the directors venture to give a brief outline of the aims and requirements of this useful institution, hoping and believing that in this way the help of those who, perhaps from insufficient acquaintance, have hitherto withheld their support, will be attracted.

ITS OBJECT.

To provide medical treatment and skilful nursing in cases of fever, as well as in all others of general sickness, especially for the commercial community, irrespective of nationality, comprising the large staffs of banks, railway and shipping companies and private firms. Also for any others requiring the comforts and advantages of a private hospital, and extending where practicable its assistance to those unable to pay for medical treatment.

ITS ADVANTAGES.

Prompt medical attention and careful nursing by a trained staff, so essential in fever cases, are difficult to obtain by young men dependent on their friends in time of sickness. The members of many a business staff have thus been relieved of many hours of nursing their companions, a necessity which was both dangerous to themselves and detrimental to their daily occupations.

COST OF MAINTENANCE.

The minimum sum required to keep the Hospital on a proper footing and maintain an efficient nursing staff is 3,000\$00 per month, exclusive of many incidental expenses and other unforeseen disbursements in connection with the proper conservation of the building and property.

SOURCES OF INCOME.

These are subscriptions, donations and patients' fees. In a community like ours these sources of income are from many causes subject to variation, and their maintenance gives much anxiety to, and requires the constant vigilance of the directorate.

THE DEFICIT AND ITS CAUSES.

The directors regret to state that through the failing off of revenue, an increasing debt has to be faced, which must be promptly dealt with. Through various causes some subscriptions have ceased or been withdrawn, donations have not been so plentiful as in the past, and owing to exceptionally healthy seasons of late there has been a decrease in patients' fees.

To meet the present emergency, the directors think that if more general interest could be aroused in the Hospital, the necessary support would be forthcoming, and they especially appeal to those who have not so far extended a helping hand.

Annual subscriptions, no matter how small, would be a great help, and much assistance could be rendered by subscribers themselves canvassing others to join.

The institution of collecting cards has been approved of by the directors, and good service could be rendered by the ladies of the community in this form of work.

Subscriptions can be paid to the treasurer, Mr. C. E. M. Taylor, 16 Rua de Visconde d'Ipanema, or to any other member of the directorate.

DIRECTORS.—President, Revd. H. C. Tucker; Hon. Sec., Revd. John D'Arcy; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. C. E. M. Taylor.

Messrs. J. W. Applin, F. W. Barrow, E. B. Benest, F. Broad, T. G. Cross, J. Gordon, J. B. Kennedy, J. W. B. Purchas, H. O. Robinson, H. L. Wheatley.

Banks.**LONDON AND BRAZILIAN BANK, LIMITED.**

Capital £ 1,500,000
Capital paid up 750,000
Reserve fund 600,000

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10, Rua da Alfandega

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Established in Hamburg on 16th December, 1887 by the Direction der Disconto Gesellschaft in Berlin and the Norddeutsche Bank in Hamburg, Hamburg.

Capital . . . 10,000,000 Marks.

BRANCH-OFFICE IN RIO DE JANEIRO. (Caixa 108.)**BRANCH-OFFICES IN SÃO PAULO AND SANTOS** (Caixa 520.) (Caixa 185.)

Draws on :

Germany . . . Direction der Disconto Gesellschaft, Berlin
Norddeutsche Bank, Hamburg
M. A. von Rothschild, Solingen, Frankfurt a.M.

England . . . N. M. Rothschild & Sons, London
Direction der Disconto Gesellschaft, London
Manchester and Liverpool
District Banking Company Limited
Union Bank of London, Limited, London

France . . . Wm. Brandt's Sons & Co., London
Crédit Lyonnais, Paris and branches
Henne & Co., Paris
Comptoir National d'Escompte de Paris, Paris
Lazard Frères & Co., Paris
De Steuben & Co., Paris

Portugal . . . Banco Lisboa & Açores and correspondents, and other countries.

Opens accounts current.

Pays interest on deposits for a certain time.
Executes orders for purchases and sales of stocks, shares, etc., and transacts every description of bank business.

Theil-Gutschow,
Directors.

T HE LONDON AND RIVER PLATE BANK, LIMITED.

LONDON: Princes Street, E. C.

PARIS: 16, Rue Halevy.

Rio de Janeiro :

No. 21, Rua da Alfandega.

Authorized by Decree No. 591, of 1st October, 1891.

Subscribed capital . . . £ 1,500,000
Realized do . . . " 900,000
Reserve fund . . . " 1,000,000

BRANCHES:

Rua 16, 100 Belém, Pernambuco, Para, Santos,
S. Paulo, Petrópolis, Montevideo, Rosario,
Mendoza and Paysandú.

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Banque de Paris et des Pays Bas—PARIS
Banco de Portugal and agencies—PORTUGAL
And on all the chief cities of Europe.

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Farmers Loan and Trust Company—NEW YORK
First National Bank of Chicago—CHICAGO.

T HE BRITISH BANK OF SOUTH AMERICA, LIMITED.**HEAD OFFICE: 2A, MOORGATE ST.**

London E.C.

Capital £ 1,000,000
Idem paid up 500,000
Reserve fund .. 840,000

Office in Rio de Janeiro:

31 A, Rue 1º de Março

Branches at:

S. PAULO, SANTOS, BAHIA, PARA, MONTEVIDEO
Buenos Aires and ROSARIO.

Agencies at Pernambuco, Ceará, Maranhão and Rio Grande do Sul.

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The London Joint Stock Bank, Limited,

B ANCO DA REPUBLICA DO BRAZIL.**Realized Capital . . . Rs. 101,246,400\$000**

N. B. This capital to be reduced to Rs. 100,000,000 in accordance with the Government's Decree of 8th May 1897.

Reserve Fund . . . Rs. 17,480,078\$736

Profits in suspense . . . Rs. 11,156,739\$835

on 31st May 1900.

OFFICE IN RIO DE JANEIRO**9, Rua da Alfandega.**

Agencies at Pará, Maranhão, Ceará, Pernambuco, Bahia, Victoria, Santos, S. Paulo, Desterro Rio Grande do Sul, Porto Alegre, Pelotas.

Draws on:

Messrs. N. M. Rothschild & Sons,
London & County Banking Co. Ltd.
Messrs. Baring Brothers & Co. Ltd.

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Messrs. Hottinger & Co.
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HAMBURG.

Banco de Portugal

LISBON.

Opens accounts current:
Pays Interest on Deposits for fixed periods.
Executes orders for purchases and sales of stocks, shares, etc., and transacts every description of banking business.

B. INCO NACIONAL BRAZILEIRO.

A year ago the board of directors of the Banco Nacional Brasileiro, in the report for the year 1899 took a rose-colored view of the situation, in which the directors asserted, there had been a favorable modification. The government's financial measures had, they said, revived confidence whose encouraging effects they declared, were making themselves felt.

The results of the bank's operations for the year 1900, described in the report just issued, are an interesting commentary on the opinions expressed in the former report.

Here are some of those results:

Deposits:

Dec. 31, 1899	5,062,929\$143
" 1900	4,539,759 621

Decrease 3,523,169\$522

Bills discounted:

Dec. 31, 1899	3,108,633\$690
" 1900	399,474 961

Decrease 2,509,158\$730

Loans on guaranteed accounts current:

Dec. 31, 1899	3,580,532\$759
" 1900	3,129,839 410

Decrease 451,093\$349

Profit on loans and discounts:

1899	\$16,806 293
1900	403,341 793

Decrease 415,164\$531

Profit on shares and debentures:

1899	109,107 000
1900	1,125,700

Decrease 107,982\$200

Commissions:

1899	182,449\$152
1900	46,119 141

Decrease 136,309\$041

Amount of dividends paid to shareholders:

1899	500,000\$000
1900	250,000 000

Decrease 250,000\$000

Reserve fund:

Dec. 31, 1899	230,000\$000
" 1900	7,000 000

Decrease 223,000\$000

Suspended profits:

Dec. 31, 1899	216,043\$830
" 1900	000,000 000

Decrease 216,043\$830

Liability to agents:

Dec. 31, 1900	1,893,539\$540
" 1899	100,167 800

Increase 1,793,372\$540

Sundry liabilities:

Dec. 31, 1900	1,043,710\$080
" 1899	832,295 148

Increase 211,414\$932

Cash balance:

Dec. 31, 1899	2,236,201\$560
" 1900	1,022,485 700

Decrease 1,213,085\$696

A year ago there were sales of the bank's shares at 125\$ with no buyers.

Such for the Banco Nacional Brasileiro are some of the results of a year in regard to which the board of directors had expressed such hopeful opinions even after the president of the Banco da Republica, in the name of the business interests of the country, had addressed to the minister of finance his first

entreaty for mercy. And yet, in the face of many similar facts, the government and its satellites assume the right to treat with ferocious intolerance any one who is unable to be an optimist.

CORRESPONDENCE.**THE KING'S ACKNOWLEDGMENT.**

Foreign Office, February 28, 1901.

Sir.—I duly laid before the King your despatch of the 28th ultimo in which you transmit the minutes of the proceedings at a meeting of the British residents at Rio de Janeiro, held in order to give expression to the sorrow felt by them at the death of Her late Majesty Queen Victoria, Empress of India, and I have received His Majesty's commands to instruct you to convey to them His most sincere thanks for their much appreciated sympathy in the great loss which has been sustained by Him, His Royal House, and His subjects throughout the world.

The King has learnt with deep interest of the intention of the British community to establish some work of a permanent nature destined to perpetuate the memory of Her late Majesty.

I am, Sir,
Your most obedient, humble servant,
(Signed) LANSDOWNE.

C. B. Rhind, Esq., Acting British Consul General, Rio de Janeiro.

RAILROAD NOTES

—There was a collision of trains at Realengo, on the Central railway, last evening, a freight and the Santa Cruz passenger train. The fault was with the freight, which ignored the danger signals. There was no loss of life, but considerable damage to rolling stock and permanent way resulted.

—The January traffic receipts of the Central Railway were 71,792\$500 against 179,710\$240 last year, showing a decrease of 98,926\$660. The exchange rate was 9 1/5/16/l, this year against 7 7/16/l last; the sterling equivalents of the currency receipts being £2,972 this year and £5,290 last year, a decrease of £2,318.

—Some days ago on one of the Central railway trains there was found in a gunnybag three packages, one containing \$64,000 and another \$6,000 and the third \$2,750\$. In the same bag was a letter addressed by the late Conde do Pinhal to the firm of Sonza Filho & Co. The money is supposed to be part of the sum of 297,500\$ lost by the Conde on the Central railway a few days before his death. The questions now arise—was the thief afraid to take his plunder away? may not the thief have been effected by some train employee? why has the money not been found before?

—The estimated traffic receipts of the Leopoldina railway for the week ending 23rd February were as follows, compared with the corresponding week of last year:

Receipts in currency	215,302\$
idem last year	316,603\$
Decrease for week	128,301\$
Equivalent in gold this year (10 7/8%)	£ 9,892
idem last year (7 31/32%)	£ 11,508
Decrease in sterling for week	£ 1,616
Total receipts since January 1	£ 76,723
idem last year	£ 85,873
Decrease since January 1	£ 9,150

—The estimated traffic receipts of the Leopoldina railway for the week ending 2nd March were as follows, compared with the corresponding week of last year:

Receipts in currency	269,128\$
idem last year	357,541\$
Decrease for week	88,213\$
Equivalent in gold this year (11 1/4%)	£ 12,616
idem last year (11 1/4%)	£ 12,284
Increase in sterling for week	£ 3,332
Total receipts since January 1	£ 289,339
idem last year	£ 285,157
Decrease since January 1	£ 8,182

—The February traffic returns of the São Paulo railway (139 kilometres), compared with the same month of last year, give the following results:

Receipts in currency	1901	1900
idem last year	269,128\$	357,541\$
Decrease for week	88,213\$	58,421\$
idem last year	£ 12,616	£ 12,284
Increase in sterling for week	£ 3,332	£ 3,332
Total receipts since January 1	£ 289,339	£ 285,157
idem last year	£ 285,157	£ 285,157

—The approximate weekly traffic returns of the Recife and São Francisco railway (72 1/2 miles), compared with the corresponding week of last year, are as follows:

For week ending January 26th:	1901	1900
Freight traffic	6,075,893	5,438,470
Kilos	4,865,608	4,582,337
Passenger cars	10,473	17,652
Week receipts	9,599 1/2	10,457 1/2

Total receipts	74,265\$800	65,710\$700
do since Jan. 1	258,515\$979	226,029\$540
do since Jan. 1	8,585 1/2	8,555 1/2

*decrease

For week ending February 9th:	1901	1900
Freight traffic	6,084,897	4,899,770
Kilos	4,865,608	4,582,337
Passenger cars	8,574	10,749 1/2
Week receipts	8,574	10,749 1/2

Total receipts	77,863\$500	63,715\$600
do since Jan. 1	351,166\$450	351,090\$100
do since Jan. 1	8,585 1/2	8,555 1/2

*decrease

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RIO DE JANEIRO, APRIL 2nd 1901.

"CONSPIRACY," says a contemporary, "is a very dangerous game to play at." "And so too," we may add, "are fakes!" The government which makes a practice of faking conspiracies, not only injures the material interests of the country and its credit, but it familiarizes the people with the idea of conspiracy. When the people come to believe that their only remedy against misgovernment exists in revolution, they will conspire every day in the year. As for the plot alleged to have been discovered a few days since, there is not a particle of evidence that it ever existed. From the meagre particulars made public, it is a clumsy invention. A would-be suicide lying in a dangerous condition at the hospital, is said to have confessed just before the attempt on his life. Everybody knows that Burgal had attempted to shoot his wife a few days before his attempted suicide because of her relations with a certain physician, and everybody also knows that he has been through serious business troubles. Under such circumstances, so extraordinary a confession would be open to suspicion, especially as it made particular mention of the name of the physician who had betrayed his confidence. Since the publication of particulars of the alleged confession, which is said to have been made privately to the chief of police, nearly all the principal characters mentioned have promptly denied all participation in it. The names of army officers were mentioned whom no one would ever suspect of being approached on such a subject. So absurd was the accusation that a denial was not needed. And yet, in spite of all this, the government has been treating the matter seriously, and is even yet engaged in raking the gutters for evidence. Arrests of all classes and conditions of men have been made, suspected persons are being shadowed, and we are treated without even the formalities of civil law. We are not under martial law but the authorities conduct themselves as though we were. Tricks, even, are resorted to, as in the release of Admiral Custodio de Mello and his re-arrest for disobedience of orders, to defeat the action of the courts. Had there really been a conspiracy, we should not have been left without some knowledge of the evidence in the hands of the government, but as it is we only have the report of a doubtful confession by a man expected to die. Burgal is not dying, however, and a *Dia* reporter says he denies having made any such confession. And that is the situation, so far as we can obtain trustworthy information. Considering that a majority of the newspapers of this city are subsidized and are, therefore, not likely to expose the fake, the government may think that it can keep up the deception until its purposes are attained. Perhaps it can. That rumors have been current of a plot, is known to every one, but these rumors are current every day in the year. There is widespread discontent in the commer-

cial, industrial and working classes, the greater part of whom are anxious for a change of some kind. They would be glad to see a revolution, but we very much doubt whether they could be induced to take any part in it until its success had been assured. There are plenty of adherents for a successful cause, as was shown in 1889. But as for a conspiracy here in Rio de Janeiro at the present time, the President may rest in peace. Talk is harmless and will not hurt him. If any one really plots, his best friend will hasten to betray him, and he knows it. Someday there will be a mutiny, or a riot, and then a revolution will follow without a plot, and without risk of betrayal. If the government is wise, it will take precautions to remove discontent, and thus avoid the real danger.

A BRIEF note in the morning papers of the 28th announced the suspension of the *Imprensa* for a second time. Comment is perhaps unnecessary. The *Imprensa* is an opposition and unbridled newspaper, and is therefore dependent upon the public for support. Whether this suspension is due to official pressure or to public indifference, we do not know, but we do know that it is a public loss. In no country can the people afford to be without an opposition press to watch and record official trespasses upon public and private rights.

The administration of Marshal Floriano Peixoto was an object lesson which should have convinced the Brazilians of the necessity of checking in time the arbitrary tendencies of their governments. It is possible that the minister of justice, who was one of the most eloquent denouncers of the crimes of that administration, can wish to see those crimes repeated? Is it possible that the minister of war can long for the revival of that reign of terror under which his son-in-law was murdered and he himself incarcerated for many months in a loathsome prison? The violation of law is an inclining plane, and a government, when it once sets its foot thereon, is in danger of being unable to stop in its downward career until it reaches the lowest depths. Such was the case with the government of Marshal Floriano Peixoto, to which the present administration bears an alarming resemblance. If the ministers of war and justice do not wish, then, to become responsible for hideous crimes similar to those by which that sinister government was stricken, they will do well to draw back before it is too late.

IT IS said that the journalists have resolved to protest against the deportation of the caricaturist Júlio Machado as an attack on the liberty of the press. And quite right, too! We are heartily in accord with that resolution. But why not carry it a step further? If it is an attack on the liberty of the press to suppress political caricatures by means of violent expulsion from the country, then surely it is quite as much an attack on the liberty of the press to suppress political comment by means of bribery. If the press serves a public purpose, then it must be protected against corruption just as much as against intimidation. Its usefulness depends largely upon its independence, and its good influence upon its integrity and high character. A subservient, corrupt press is a curse to any country and an obstacle to its progress. It serves no good purpose and teaches no profitable lesson. It corrupts public opinion, debases public morality, disillusionizes public credit and disgraces public intelligence. It is the sentinel which sleeps on duty and parleys with the enemy seeking admittance within our gates. Such a press is unfaithful to its trust and betrays the liberty we give to it.

COFFEE NOTES

—A Santos telegram of the 30th says that the enormous arrivals of coffee at that port is causing apprehension among planters and coffee merchants. The crop is much larger than expected.

—During the month of February the São Paulo railways carried the following quantities of coffee: Paulista 9,552,079 kilos; Itatiense 543,262 kilos; Campineiro 850,915 kilos; Mogyana 11,426,181 kilos; Dourado 284,387 kilos; Araraquara 251,062 kilos; total 22,907,855 kilos. These interior lines all contribute to the traffic of the São Paulo railway, which furnishes their only outlet to the coast. The quantities carried by other São Paulo railways were: Sorocaba 6,704,618 kilos; São Paulo (English) 22,644,775 kilos and Central 2,654,261 kilos.

PROVINCIAL NOTES

—The preliminary sessions of the Bahia state assembly began on the 28th ult.

—The Italian colony of São Paulo is actively promoting the founding of a hospital.

—A meeting of the monarchist party of Uerába, Minas Geraes, was held there on the 25th ult.

—A defalcation of 22,000\$ has been discovered in the postal agency at Franca, São Paulo. The agent has disappeared.

—The *Diário de Permanbuco* has been purchased by Vice-President Rosa e Silva, and will resume publication on the 7th inst.

—The manager of the City of Santos Improvement Co., Mr. Steinhause, has gone home on a visit. He was a passenger by the "Magdalena".

—The São Paulo chief of police has stationed 30 men at Taboada, near Barretos, to prevent Lied. Marques from crossing the Paraná river into São Paulo territory.

—A new daily commercial paper has been founded in São Paulo by Messrs. J. D. Morse and F. H. Clark, under the title of *Diário da Praça*. Success to the new venture.

—It is announced that Dr. Luiz Viana, ex-governor of Bahia, is about to return to Europe, declaring that his life is threatened here by persons opposed to him in politics.

—Two representatives of the Jewish Colonization Society have arrived at Porto Alegre, commissioned to examine the lands of Rio Grande do Sul suitable for agricultural colonies.

—It is reported that the São Paulo police on the Matto Grosso frontier under Capt. Benedito Jovino has succeeded in capturing near Rio Preta a quantity of M user rifles and cartridges.

—A second trial of the murderer Abel Hamcuando de Oliveira Noronha at Curitiba, Paraná, has resulted in a sentence of 29 years, 9 months and 29 days. This looks like a very exact measurement of justice.

—Two Italians, named Ametrani and Sartori, were captured in São Paulo on the 26th ult. in the act of negotiating the sale of counterfeit notes. The sum of 15,600\$ in such notes was captured at the same time.

—The *Patrón* of São Paulo says that Lieut. Marques, who is threatening to invade S. Paulo territory, is encamped with 500 men and two pieces of artillery at a place in Matto Grosso, near the Paulista frontier. He is still to have carte blanche from the executive of Matto Grosso.

—Several prisoners from the S. Paulo Parahyba district, including Col. Carlos de Castro and Dionysius Benites and Maj. Luiz do Nascimento, arrived at São Paulo on the 29th ult. They were interrogated the following day and then liberated. It is said that Capt. Jovino, who arrested them, will be recalled.

—It is asserted that a conspiracy was discovered last week among the prisoners in the S. Paulo penitentiary to assassinate the director, jailor and wardens and then to make their escape. Some sixty convicts, serving sentences of 24 to 30 years, were concerned. Much seems to have been a good month for conspiracies.

—A row is now on between Minas and São Paulo. Officers of the national guard at Uberaba, Minas Geraes, have sent telegrams to the São Paulo chief of police protesting against the arrest of Col. Dionysius Benites and Carlos de Castro and against the permanence of a São Paulo police force on the Minas frontier. The dispatch is said to have been concluded in very violent terms. The São Paulo officials did not reply to it, which will only serve to make matters worse.

—We sincerely regret to note the death from pneumonia in Paris on the 26th inst. of Dr. Elias Fausto Pacheco Jordão, federal deputy from the state of São Paulo and one of the best and most trusted of those now in public life. He was a native of Itab, a graduate in engineering of Cornell University in 1874, one of the founders and a partner in the coffee firm of Prado Chaves & Co., and formerly chief engineer of the Itatiaia railway and of the department of public works of São Paulo. He belonged to an important and prominent São Paulo family and was highly esteemed for his many social and business qualities. By his death Brazil loses a citizen upon whom many hopes had been built as a safe guide in the reorganization of her economic life.

LOCAL NOTES

—The Oxford-Cambridge regatta on Saturday resulted in a victory for Oxford.

—The Latin-American scientific congress at Montevideo was formally closed on the 29th ult.

—It is stated that Minister Pinilla, the Bolivian minister to Brazil, has returned to Bolivia after arriving at Valparaíso.

—One of the persons that circulated the false report of Admiral Custodio de Mello's visit to Gen. Argollo is Congressmen Serzedello.

—Among the persons arrested last week, prior to his release again, was Sr. Gama Junior, editor of the *Rebata*, a monarchist journal.

—Now that the Americans have caught Aguinaldo in the Philippines, are we next to hear of the capture of De Wet by the British in South Africa?

—Smidley says that the opera-bouffe conspiracy which the government pretends to have discovered, ought to have been made public on April 1st.

—The President and American minister breakfasted on the cruiser "Benjamim Constant" on the 28th, before the sailing of that vessel for New York.

—Under the supervision of a commission of the Club de Engenheiros, a new census is being taken of the Gloria parish to test the accuracy of the last census.

—The unwillingness of the government to tolerate opposition of any kind is one of the fruits of the subservience and servilism of politicians in and out of congress.

—In cases of arrests recently made by the police no charges seem to be made against the prisoners, who apparently are not even informed of the cause of their arrest.

—The Bolivian minister of war, Col. Ismael Montes, arrived here from the Amazon on the 30th ult. and took rooms at the Hotel dos Espanhóis. He is ill with her-heri.

—Whether Borlido had committed any crime or not, the government's conduct in sending him out of the country was arbitrary, harsh and illegal and thwarted the action of justice in the case.

—The Bolivian minister, Dr. Silvias Vega, did not leave us at the time first announced. He took leave of the President on the 30th ult. and is sailing for Buenos Aires on the 8th with Col. Montes.

—An arrest was made on Friday last in connection with the recent defalcation in the general revenue office (*recebedoria*) of this capital. That defalcation has been found to have been about 100,000\$.

—The attention of our readers is called to the advertisement of the British consul-general in regard to a census of the British residents of this city. The particulars asked for should sent in without delay.

—It is possible that some one may be benefited by what is now occurring in Brazil, but the country itself will certainly derive no benefit therefrom. On the contrary, it will suffer politically, financially and morally.

—A telegram from New York announces the death in that city on the 23rd inst. of Mr. J. W. Done, chief of the well-known coffee house of Messrs. J. W. Done & Co., of New York, Chicago, Rio and Santos.

—Generals Argollo, Jacques Ourique and Col. Thumaturgo, whose names have been mentioned in connection with the alleged conspiracy recently discovered, have denied all knowledge of the affair.

—Interviewed by a *Dia* reporter, Burgo do Burgo denied having any knowledge whatever of a plot against the government and contradicted the statement that he had given information to the police on this subject.

—They say that there are plots against Campos Sales.—And against the other can also.—Then the two autocarts can confide with each other.—And form an alliance offensive and defensive.—Especially offensive.

—A number of thieves were captured on the wooded hillsides of Copacabana on Saturday last. There have been a great many robberies in that vicinity and the police have been accused of want of diligence in the matter.

—We are in receipt of a copy of the Rules of the Paysandú Cricket Club, neatly printed on card board and folded for pocket use. The club is making noteworthy progress and is sure to make a good record during the coming season.

—If the cablegrams of Saturday are correct, the Kaiser is now claiming Guat as his. Smidley says it takes two to make an alliance, and we are still without positive information about one of the parties to the alleged compact.

—Complaints are made of the failure of the municipal authorities to move promptly the sand brought down from the hills by recent heavy rains. In our opinion, it is a mistake to expect our city fathers to exert themselves in such a manner.

—The government has not yet informed the public why it arrested Admiral Castoldio de Melo, nor why it has caused other arrests to be made. It seems, however, to have encouraged the unauthorized statements that have been circulated.

—Among the falsehoods circulated last week was the statement that Admiral Castoldio de Melo shortly before his arrest had attempted to sound Gen. Argollo on the political situation. This statement has been contradicted by Gen. Argollo himself.

—The postoffice finds that the sale of postage stamps has decreased greatly, and suspects the use of counterfeit stamps. On the 1st inst. a letter was stopped because it bore a suspected stamp. This adds another uncertainty to the employment of the mails.

—The discovery of various practices in the manufacture of serum in Italy should lead to caution on the part of physicians and patients in its use. It is positively dangerous to life to be inoculated with the stuff. Several cases of tetanus have already been reported caused by it.

—An Argentine doctor at the Montevideo scientific congress recommends the disinfection of houses, factories, printing offices, etc., in order to crush out pulmonary consumption. Before this is done we would recommend vaccinating the sanitary authorities with a little common sense.

—It is noteworthy that the police are making extraordinary progress in putting down conspiracy. On Saturday they arrested an sergeant of the army and an extra conductor. At this rate they will soon be able to say that they have extinguished every sign of this ex-conspiracy.

—Admiral Castoldio de Melo's refusal to accept employment in the service to which he belongs until the question of his arrest shall have been settled, gave the government a lesson in propriety, discipline and morality. We hope that the government will profit by this well-deserved rebuke.

—According to the *Páiz* of yesterday, press gang recruiting for the army has been renewed in this city. Misfortunes seldom come singly.

—Smalwyt says he intends to petition the government some day, over a 300 reis stamp, for information in regard to the degree of confidence he can place in any branch of the public service. He says he wants a proper guarantee before dealing with such people.

—We see by our American exchanges that Minister E. H. Conger is spoken of as a candidate for the governorship of Iowa. Mr. Conger is now minister at Pekin, but is away on a holiday. His many friends here in Rio de Janeiro will be glad to hear that his candidacy has resulted successfully.

—The statements circulated in regard to the details of the alleged plot have brought forth many contradictions. Some of these contradictions are in bad taste and their authors display little judgment, but most of them contribute to destroy the tissue of falsehoods wantonly placed in circulation.

—There has been some talk of deporting Julião Machado who has been drawing some very amusing caricatures of Campos Salles in the *Jornal do Brasil*. It is stated, however, that at a meeting of journalists it was resolved to protest against any such measure as an attack on the liberty of the press.

—The Bishop of Bath and Wells has offered the prebendal stall of Dultingeope, vacant by the death of Preliminary Stephenson, to the Right Rev. Bishop Stirling, Bishop of the Falkland Isles, who is about to resign his see and to act as assistant bishop in the diocese of Bath and Wells. —*Church Times*.

—The scientific congress at Montevideo has resolved to consider the foreigner a citizen who accepts public employment. But suppose he objects? And how will this affect the chief of the new statistical bureau, who holds a public position and is invested with all its dignities and perquisites except that of salary?

—Another telegram about the proposed Latin-American exposition in London, which it is said will be at Earl's Court, will include characteristic exhibits of Brazilian scenery, Indians, customs, etc. If the "syndicate" could exhibit a typical conspiracy and its suppression, it would make the show a great success.

—The revised and enlarged editions of the details of the alleged plot that circulated last week are evidently of Jacobin origin. The men who murdered Marshal Bittencourt and attempted to murder President Prudente de Moraes very naturally attribute to their adversaries the intention of resorting to political assassinations.

—The government has conceded permission to the relatives and friends of Admiral Custodio de Melo to visit him at his quarters on Cobras Island, but has provided a book in which they must sign their names. We are surprised that the minister of marine has not followed the example set by the chief of police and ordered them all to be photographed.

—The budget of the British government for 1901-02 which has recently been presented to parliament shows a deficit of £4 millions sterling, which must be covered by new taxes. This will be an object lesson to the British people as to the cost of imperialism. Besides this a large increase in the army is proposed, which will add heavily to the permanent budget.

—The supreme court refused yesterday to issue a writ of habeas corpus in favor of Admiral Custodio de Melo. If we are correctly informed, the court did not enter into the question of the legality of the arrest. The doctrine of the court seems to be that for the illegal arrest of an officer of the army or navy by his military superiors habeas corpus is not the legal remedy.

—We are glad to note that the official investigations have determined that no military and naval students were concerned in the rowdy disorders of carnival. They behaved themselves, and the injured parties, of course, hurt themselves. The young gentlemen who carry little swords and wear clean uniforms with brass buttons before and behind, were not known to have done anything disorderly.

—Two proposals for supplying Brazil with smokeless powder were opened on the 30th ult. One was by Major Barreto of the Portuguese army, who offered to mount incendiary and furnish that type of powder for £40,000/£40,000. The other proposal was from a Kolin-Rottweiler syndicate (German) which wanted about 10,000,000 marks for mounting machinery for supplying the powder. Perhaps the government will now let the scheme rest for a while.

—Two years ago the government initiated proceedings against one Alílio Rodrigues for counterfeiting revenue stamps and seized 19,250 of such stamps in his house. The inquiry was never completed, and the other day the 2nd *dilegido* found the stamps among his papers without any explanation attached in regard to their character. He at first thought they had been stolen from the mint, but an inquiry addressed to an ex-official elicited the facts.

—Borlido before being sent out of the country is reported to have said:—"When I am plotted, I was not punished, and now I am punished without having plotted." Some of the journals seem to suppose that in saying this he confessed that he had plotted last year, although he was acquitted of the respective charge against him. It is more probable, however, that he referred to a doctordom plot in which he took part in April, 1892, against the government of Marshal Floriano Peixoto.

—It appears that telegrams were sent to the River Plate on the 18th advising a monarchist plot, which, as was the case several years ago, has the navy as its base. A greater falsehood could not have been invented. There is not a word of truth in the whole statement. The naval revolt of 1893-94 was not a monarchist plot. There is no monarchist plot now. There is no naval conspiracy, nor is the navy a base for any plot. And we very much doubt that there is any more conspiracy now than there is any other day in the year.

—It is a curious circumstance that the only definite accusation of conspiracy is to be found in an irresponsible telegram from this city to the *Estado* of São Paulo, which asserts that the Barão do Burgoal, before attempting to commit suicide, called on the chief of police and exposed a plot which cabinet and chief of police, the organization of a provisional government, etc. The story is vague enough in detail, but it includes the name of Dr. Menezes Doria as a conspirator, whom Burgoal accuses of seducing his wife.

—Admiral Custodio de Melo was yesterday examined by the naval medical board, who reported him to be suffering from a "dyspepsia gastrintestinal atonicus," which rendered it dangerous to send him to Amazonas, Pará, Mato Grosso or any other state where the climate is hot and humid. The board also declared that his illness does not unfit him for active service. It is rumored that he will be discharged from arrest to-day, and also that the government will order him to some state not indicated by the medical board as prejudicial to his health. It is stated that the Admiral has petitioned for a council of war to pass upon his first arrest.

—On Thursday night last a respectable and well-known business man of this city, a Portuguese, happened to be calling on some friends and was returning home late. He stopped on Rua S. Christovão to wait for a tram, and when one passed started to run after it. He was immediately stopped by a policeman who asked where he lived, and then said he must go to the station with him. Meeting another friend, he was asked what had happened, and on explaining the situation the friend took the policeman to account for his conduct. The latter then asserted that the Rua de S. Christovão had a large number of police soldier concealed here and there, and that his orders were to arrest every suspicious person because that street is a "focus of conspiracy." Fine state of affairs, surely!

—There seems to be not a little criticism of the means by which the Americans captured Aguiaraldo. We know how virtuous and honorable the critics all are, and that they would under no circumstances do such a thing. Not for worlds! Sometimes their virtue quite overwhelms us, for in this poor wicked world we see so much lying, stealing, and other bad actions, that we can not imagine a state of society without. But the critics must be patient and make due allowances. We have only vague information as yet about the affair, and may not be so bad as reported. The noble and heroic Aguiaraldo may have been captured by accident, and the uncivilized Americans may therefore not have intentionally used information obtained about his hiding-place and took no unfair advantage of him.

—It is worthy of note that when Sr. Borlido was arrested on suspicion of being connected with a conspiracy, the police had him photographed like a common thief. In the United States, which by the way claims to be a republic, this would have led to an action for damages. Still further, to arrest a citizen and deport him without meeting one single legal formality, would have given the victim, in the United States, heavy damages for false imprisonment, and would have cost the officials their places on a charge of abuse of authority. In this pseudo-republic, however, an executive official is permitted to do just what he pleases. We understand, of course, that it will be claimed that Sr. Borlido is a foreigner. He was a Portuguese by birth, but was a naturalized Brazilian citizen, and was entitled to a trial instead of deportation.

—I see that the *New York World* has been asking the opinions of various prominent men, observed Smalwyt, looking up from the exchange he had been reading, in regard to the chief danger confronting the new century. There are all sorts of opinion, from imperialism and war to greed, drink and self-advertising vanity. Through some oversight my opinion was not asked, but I intend to present it to the *World* all the same. The chief danger, in my humble opinion, is to be found in our unbecoming foolishness. It is the source of all our troubles. If we were not so hopelessly foolish, England would not be expending so much blood and treasure in an attempt to whip a few South African farmers, nor the United States in hunting a lot of savage Tagalogs out of their wretched swamps, and the Chinese trouble would have been settled long ago. I might also say that but for this foolishness Campos Salles would not now be deporting men because of the empty talk of the cafés.

—Has Admiral Custodio de Melo committed any crime?—Apparently he has not, for the government after having started the public with his arrest has again startled it by offering him honorable employment in the service to which he belongs?—What can be said of the conduct of a government that offers such employment to a criminal?—That it is unscrupulous and vile.—And what can be said of the conduct of a government that arrests an innocent man?—That it is arbitrary and despotic.—Is there no way of making

the government responsible for such conduct?—Apparently there is not. You will doubtless remember that in 1893 and 1894 the most hideous crimes were committed and no one was punished for them. Congress even went out of its way to express approval of the government under which those crimes were committed.—Can the sufferers hope for redress?—It is said to be useless for them to do so.—Are there no provisions in the constitution and laws of the country for the protection of personal rights?—I am informed that there are, but they seem to have no practical value.

—Practically, then, the government of Brazil is an irresponsible despotism.—That is the logical conclusion.—And is there no hope of improvement?—By means of legal methods?—Those are the best methods, are they not?—Undoubtedly. The employment of extra-legal methods has seldom produced beneficial results. Unfortunately, on the other hand, the prospect of improvement by means of legal methods is not encouraging. The people have no legal way of enforcing respect for their wishes except by means of elections and the prevailing opinion seems to be that in Brazil elections are a mere farce.—Is the situation, then, utterly hopeless?—Yes, unless there exists in Brazil more patriotism than is now apparent. If it exists, it should speedily make itself felt, for, until it does so, the situation will become more and more discouraging.

DEATH.

DOANE.—On the 23rd March, in the United States, Mr. J. W. Doane, head of the firm of J. W. Doane & Co.

BUSINESS NOTES

—The application of Marques Braga & Co. of Para for judicial liquidation has been accepted.

—Judge Ataulfo de Paiva has ordered the judicial liquidation of the Companhia Industrial de Transportes.

—Judge Urbano Marcondes de Moura has ordered the judicial liquidation of the Companhia Engenho Central de Lorena.

—We see by our exchanges that Mr. Edmund Hett, London director of Messrs. Wilson Sons & Co. Ltd., died on the 21st ult.

—About 200 weavers are out on a strike at the Italo-Brazilian cotton factory of Rio Grande because of a reduction in their wages.

—Eighty operatives have been thrown out of employment by the burning of a grist mill and macaroni factory on Rua Larga de São Joaquim.

—At Porto Alegre the old and reputable firm of Schmitt & Co. has been forced by the present prolonged period of financial and commercial depression to ask a moratorium.

—O telegram of the 28th inst. states that at Rio Grande do Sul about 200 operatives of a spinning and weaving factory have struck on account of a reduction of 5% in their wages.

—We deeply regret to state that the old and highly respectable house of Pecher & Co. of Antwerp and Rio de Janeiro, has been compelled to make an assignment in favor of its creditors.

—Barão Alves Conceição, head of the important firm of Conceição & Co. which failed some time ago, has been sentenced to imprisonment for two years and four months for fraudulent bankruptcy.

—A London telegram of the 30th credits the *South American Journal* with the statement that an English syndicate is proposing to organize in London an exposition of Latin-American products.

—The director-general of the federal post-office announces that the record signal of Washington on 15th June, 1897, relative to international postal money orders enters into exception April 1st, 1901.

—At Rio on the 28th ult. a deputation of unemployed operatives called on the governor for the purpose of asking for work. The governor promised that, after the crisis is over, he will do what he can for them.

—The shareholders of the embankment Banco Mercantil of Bahia held a meeting on the 30th ult. and appointed a commission to report a new organization for the bank. Another meeting will be held this month to discuss the suggested reforms.

—There were exported from the United Kingdom to Brazil in the months of January and February 10,093,300 yards of cotton piece goods valued in £ 121,878, against 11,724,500 yards valued in £ 126,135 in the corresponding period of 1900.

—The firm of Srs. Pacheco Silva & Co., printers and stationers, have made an assignment to their creditors. One firm of paper importers figure among the creditors for over 160 contos. This firm had the official printing of the state of Rio de Janeiro, and was compelled to accept bonds in payment at a heavy loss.

—As the United States senate has failed to ratify a considerable number of reciprocity treaties, one of our São Paulo exchanges advises the Argentines to keep cool and wait, for nothing to prejudice the introduction of flour is likely to occur. The impression is certainly not a good one. Pushing the negotiation of treaties, and then refusing to ratify them is not serious business.

—Grovating under burdensome taxation, the merchants of Rio de Janeiro have frequently threatened to close their establishments and, individually, some of them have been forced to do so. At Tamandaré, São Paulo, the merchants have collectively closed their business houses and the municipal government has asked the government of the state to furnish 50 policemen to enable it to compel the merchants to pay taxes.

—The agents of some of the foreign insurance companies have made representations to their diplomatic representative against the exaggerated and excessive taxes levied upon them, which render it difficult for them to transact business in this country. One of the native paper ventures to assert that they are no more heavily taxed than the native companies. Will our colleague prove this assertion?

—There have been a great many comments over the restitution of large sums illegally collected by the custom-house, but we have not yet seen one single word in favor of holding *conferentes* responsible for arbitrary and illegal rulings. If these officials were compelled to observe the law and were not allowed to exercise so much irresponsible authority, the treasury would not be called upon to pay such penalties.

—Trouble has arisen in Pernambuco between the director of the state treasury and the procurador fiscal, Dr. Manoel Nicolau, the latter having been denied admission to the archives of the treasury. It is asserted that 400,000\$ in "using apólices" have appeared at the Banco Popular, where they had been hypothesized, which had been issued in duplicate. It is also stated that under the government of Barbosa Lima, a counterfeit book with 100,000\$ of the said apólices, signed by Nicolau and another, disappeared. It strikes us that if there is reason enough to prohibit Nicolau from entering a public department because of these charges, there must be reason enough for his prosecution.

—It is to be feared that our statement in regard to the taxes paid on starting candles by the Cia. Luz Steatite was not as clear as it should have been. We called attention to the circumstance that the company's capital would be expended in these taxes in a period of four years. Perhaps we should have said "a sum equal to the company's capital," for the president of that company has written to the *Journal do Brasil* to correct us, stating that the taxes are paid by the consumer, and not from the capital. This we know, of course, and did not occur to us that we would be misunderstood. The point we wished to make was that the annual taxes imposed upon this company were equal to about 25 per cent of its capital. No industry can prosper under such a regime, unless of exceptional character and under exceptional circumstances.

FINANCIAL NOTES

—Exchange at 12 d. — and all's well!

—It is announced that the minister of finance will recommend burning paper money this month.

—Executive decree No. 3,970, of the 26th ult., makes a deficiency appropriation of 151,930\$179 for the war department.

—The governor of the state of Rio de Janeiro has made by executive decree a special appropriation of 500,000\$ for the payment of arrears of indebtedness.

—The tribunal of accounts has decided that the government may legally make by executive decree an appropriation of 1,923,553\$34 for the payment of the claim of Francisco Antonio da Silva transferred to Theodor Wills & Co.

—The government has made by executive decree another deficiency appropriation, amounting to 216,561\$15, for expenses with bubonic plague. This with the previous deficiency appropriation of 550,000\$ makes a total of 765,561\$315. Instead of attacking the health of the people the plague attacked their pockets.

—The fine of 10,000\$ imposed upon Messrs. Norton Megaw & Co. for using alleged vitiated revenue stamps, has taken a new phase. The firm appealed to the British legation. The minister of finance has now annulled the fine because it was imposed by an unauthorized person, and the matter will be submitted to the proper authority. This will be the reply to the protest.

—The following is a statement of the receipts of the Rio de Janeiro general revenue office:

1st quarter 1900.....	6,351,310\$158
" " 1901.....	5,239,383\$769

Decrease..... 1,111,926\$89

The decrease is over 17 %.

—Among the payments whose registration was ordered on Friday by the president of the tribunal of accounts were the following:

To Souza Filho & Co. for excess of duties paid on cartas secas.....	1,797,502\$300
" Silva Guimarães & Co. for same.....	429,919\$460

To Pires Coelho & Irmão, for excess of duties paid on kerosene.....	886,386\$624
" J. de Aquino Fonseca Irmão for same.....	179,717\$480

Decrease..... 3,293,525\$64

—The receipts of the Rio de Janeiro custom-house and general revenue office for the month of March were as follows:

General Revenue Office:	
1900.....	2,161,004\$000
1901.....	1,651,657\$118

Decrease..... 812,346\$82

Custom-house:	
1901.....	4,180,612\$491
1900.....	4,342,289\$566

Increase..... 138,334\$975

Net decrease.....	671,011\$97
-------------------	-------------

73	do	.....	555
36	Inscriptions 3% (reg.)	at rate of	665
	do	8,700	650
68	Emprestimo Municipal	.....	120
50	do	do	120
10	do	do	120
100	deb. Imprensa Vinga	.....	10
	Banks		
9	República	.....	55,000
13	do	.....	55
134	Rural e Hypotecario (m/s.)	.....	17
	Railways		
200	V. F. Sapecahy	.....	9,500
100	do	do	9
	Miscellaneous		
300	Melhoramentos no Brazil	.....	10,500
700	do	do	10,500
115	Transporte e Carrinhagens	.....	65
	MAR. 30.		
31	Apólices, 5%	.....	760,500
2	do	.....	751
4	do	.....	752
	do	3,105 at rate of	720
	do	2,903 (cert.) do	700
	do	6,005 at rate of	705
1	do	183	745
50	do	.....	742
12	do	(reg.)	750
43	do	.....	755
25	do	IS47	880
2	do	.....	887
32	do	.....	880
100	do	.....	885
30	Inscriptions 3% (reg.) at rate of	.....	670
28	Emprestimo Municipal (reg.)	.....	122
150	deb. Sorocabana-Ipanema R. R.	.....	76
100	Imprensa Vinga	.....	10
	Banks		
133	República	.....	56,000
202	do	.....	56,500
100	do	.....	57
6	Rio e Matto Grosso	.....	55
	Railways		
37	V. F. Sapecahy	.....	5,000
	Miscellaneous		
1000	Melhoramentos no Brazil	10,500
100	Sal e Navegacio	17
162	Transporte e Carrinhagens	65

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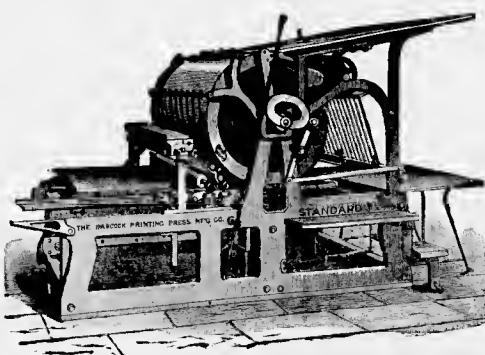
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THE RIO NEWS.

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